N O T I C E

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REPORTAGE ON EVENTS IN IRAN

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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FBIS DAILY REPORT

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29 MARCH DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING U.S. RELATIONS, HOSTAGES

Easter Service for Hostages

NC291549 Paris AFP in English 1514 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Tehran, March 29 (AFP)--Iranian militants occupying the United States Embassy here said today that an Easter service would be held for the estimated 50 American hostages held captive since November 4. "Iranian priests who participated in the revolution have already been invited to say mass for the hostages," the Islamic militants told AFP. They said that further details about the April 6 Easter services would be announced at a later date.

Carter Action, Reagan 'Pressure'

JN291718 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Text] ASSOCIATED PRESS has reported that U.S. President Jimmy Carter is currently studying the possibility of a new decrease in the number of the staff of the Iranian diplomatic mission to the United States. U.S. sources reported that despite the present crisis between Iran and the United States, the latter is trying to maintain its diplomatic ties with Iran.

These sources added that if holding the hostages continues for an indefinite period, then the nine EEC members might sever their relations with Iran.

In another development, Republican presidential candidates are exerting much pressure on Carter to practice new attempts against Iran. Ronald Reagan is the one who is exerting most of this pressure. He is demanding more pressure on Iran to release the hostages. Two weeks ago, George Bush demanded severing relations with Iran.

Beheshti Press Conference

JN291715 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Ayatollah Dr Mohammad Beheshti, chief justice of the Supreme Court and member of the Islamic revolution court, has announced that the former shah's flight to Egypt not only made his extradition more difficult, but also complicated the issue of the hostages. In a press conference Dr Beheshti added that up to now, he cannot offer any suggestion to the Consultative Assembly. What is important, he said, is that Iran wants to achieve its total political and economic independence, but the U.S. administration does not want to respect Iran's independence or the independence of similar countries.

Dr Beheshti said that when the United States stops practicing such policies, we can find a basis for reconciliation with it.

Dr Beheshti added that the hostages' trial should help us and the people to arrive at complete independence. As the imam once said: After that, we might forgive them.

Dr Beheshti was asked about the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. He said: We have opposed that and will try our utmost to get the Soviets out of there. He added that treatment given to the Soviets will be the same as that given to the United States.

Lawyers Report on Frozen Assets

LD291734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, this afternoon Mr Sean MacBride, accompanied by (Paul Budil), Iran's lawyer in the United States, met and conferred with Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, our country's president. At the meeting, Iran's lawyers submitted a report to the president on their activities in connection with the freezing of Iran's foreign currency reserves in Europe and United States.

Text of Carter Message

LD291808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1637 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] U.S. President Jimmy Carter, in a message addressed to Imam Khomeyni, the leader of revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has emphasized: My government inherited a very sensitive international situation which resulted from former policies and circumstances and which has made all of us commit mistakes in the past. The text of the message sent by U.S. President Jimmy Carter was handed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran by the charge d'affairs of the Swiss Embassy in Tehran. Imam Khomeyni's office announced that in order to keep the dear nation of Iran informed concerning all affairs of the country, the message sent by Carter to Imam Khomeyni is released as follows:

Your Eminence: I had the opportunity to read your message of 21 March addressed to the nation of Iran. I consider this message a major document for the future of your country. In this message you have defined your position in international politics. This is under consideration by us. I agree that world peace requires new relations between countries, especially respect for sovereignty of governments and the people's right to choose their destiny. I wish to emphasize that these two principles which have repeatedly been put forward by you and Mr Bani-Sadr, the president, are also the principles that I believe in, and we have demonstrated our resolve to the world regarding the implementation of these principles whether in Nicaragua, Afghanistan, or in the case of a probable threat to the sovereignty of Yugoslavia.

I wish to emphasize that my government has inherited a very sensitive international situation which is the result of former policies and circumstances and which has made all of us commit mistakes in the past. The great American democratic (?genius) is that it has always been able to recognize its mistakes and even condemn them. We announced our approval of the UN investigative commission to clarify the serious repercussions of American interference in Chile, and this investigative commission made important conclusions towards condemning this interference and adopted important measures regarding the consequences arising from these acts.

We have informed President Bani-Sadr that we are ready to establish such an investigative commission in America in a way to enable solving this crisis between our two nations. We have also informed Mr Bani-Sadr of our readiness to earnestly try to gain the necessary approval of the Iranian nation to find a peaceful solution to existing differences between the two governments. I can clearly understand that occupying our embassy in Tehran could have been a natural reaction by Iranian youths. But time has passed and I have evidence to doubt the true motives of those who have occupied our embassy.

Today the occupation of the embassy has created major problems for your government and mine, and ultimately it has caused differences which prevent the resolution of the present crisis and creation of new relations based on equality and mutual respect, which you have demanded and which we agree with. We are ready to accept the new realities which are a consequence of the Iranian Revolution. This goal is still our aim and our desire, since I think that ultimately we are pursuing the same goal, which is international peace and establishment of justice in all countries.

Since the departure of the former shah, who was accepted on humanitarian grounds for treatment, from the United States, my government decided not to interfere in these problems. Leaving Panama was a personal decision made by the former shah and we are quite innocent with regards to the negotiations between him and As-Sadat concerning his taking refuge in Egypt. We turned down the idea of his return to the United States. We turned down the idea that he should receive treatment in American hospitals and by American doctors. We provided Mr Bani-Sadr with all the information we had concerning the former shah's health.

I deem the maintenance of complete separation between the two principles fundamental. The crisis between us should be solved through implementing the will and capabilities of our governments and based on the realities and future interests of the two nations. I wish to stress that as soon as the problem is solved by handing responsibility for the hostages to the Government of Iran, we will be ready to adopt a logical and friendly policy to solve the many problems between us. The formation of a joint commission as an element in investigating mutual problems has been suggested to us. We are ready to favorably accept this suggestion and consider this commission a means of developing our future relations.

I beg you to help me in solving the crisis between us according to just and honorable principles. I will greatly appreciate this, and our two nations will thank you for it. May I take the liberty to state that in my opinion time and the real enemies of our respective political regimes are acting against us. Yours very respectfully,

[Signed] Jimmy Carter, 26 March 1980.

30 MARCH DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING U.S. RELATIONS, HOSTAGES

White House, Swiss Denials

LD300309 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Following the announcement of Carter's message by the imam's office in Tehran, according to reports from various agencies, the spokesman for the White House and the Swiss ambassador in Tehran have denied this report. Our reporters will get in touch with the responsible authorities in the country and let you know of their ideas, in view of this denial.

Consideration of MacBride Suggestion

LD300414 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Revolution Council did not hold a general meeting last night and in the meetings held by its various commissions several bills were investigated and approved.

'Ali Reza Nobari, the director general of the Iranian Central Bank, at the end of the meetings held by the Revolution Council commissions, in an interview with reporters said: [read by announcer] Sean MacBride, who is a well known world figure, was supposed to participate in the UN commission of inquiry but he did not participate in that commission because of some problems. He has again offered his previous suggestion, with some alterations, to Mr Bani-Sadr. This suggestion was investigated in a meeting between us this morning [i.e. a meeting between Nobari and MacBride] and it was raised this afternoon in the presence of Mr Bani-Sadr and tomorrow, meaning today, we shall have a meeting.

And he said this suggestion will be investigated by the Revolution Council and the Government of Iran will announce its views afterwards.

Further on White House Denial

LD300452 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According reports from various agencies, the spokesman for the White House has denied Carter's message last night. On the other hand, the Swiss ambassador in Tehran, in an interview with AFP, has also denied receiving such a message from Carter. In Western diplomatic culture, which is full of lies and tricks, these denials and confirmations have long stories. Westerners have not yet become fully familiar with the open policy of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, which emphasizes explaining the affairs to the people and that is why the broadcast of Carter's message by the imam's office has surprised them. Our colleagues at the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran are trying to get in touch with our country's responsible authorities and the Swiss Embassy in Tehran, to get their views about this denial. Results will be brought to the attention of the dear nation of Iran in later news bulletins.

Bani-Sadr on Carter Message

LD300653 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] In a statement issued today, President Bani-Sadr stressed that Carter's message was delivered to him by the Swiss charge d'affaires. The text of the statement issued following Jimmy Carter's message to the imam and its subsequent denial by the White House spokesman is as follows:

It has been heard that the White House spokesman has denied Mr Carter's message to the imam. The truth of the matter is that Mr Carter has not yet understood our Islamic Revolution. Consequently, he does not know that we do not keep things secret from our people. Everything should take place through informing the people; therefore, we must duly notify the public of any letter or message.

Mr Carter's message to the imam and myself was delivered simultaneously by the Swiss charge d'affaires in Tehran. In his message to me, Carter has said that he does not wish at all to resort to exerting pressure and making difficulties for Iran; that the problem of the hostages and internal factors in the United States have subjected him to a tremendous amount of pressure and that he cannot ignore these factors.

The full text of this message shall be made public later.

Further Report

JN3000943 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpts] In a statement issued today, President Bani-Sadr stressed that President Carter's message was delivered to him by the Swiss charge d'affaires in Tehran. The following is the text of the statement issued after the denial by the White House spokesman:

It has been heard that the White House spokesman has denied Mr Carter's message to the imam.

Political norms dictate that such letters not be published. However, standards of revolution are something else and we are undoubtedly working according to these standards.

In reply to Carter, I stated that the struggle against hegemony and control in any area in the world is considered a necessity to us. What is important to us is to see whether the hostages' situation will serve mankind in this great and fateful struggle. Therefore, there is no need for threats or encouragements. I am working according to my faith. The Iranian people will make the final decision in support or in opposition.

In the past, elements ['anasir] connected with the policies of East and West raised the sensitive issue of compromise and the Islamic Revolution has overcome such sensitivities. We are working in the interest of our revolution and of the world revolution without paying attention to the factors that are connected to you [words indistinct].

I will speak to the people on this subject in detail and on other major local issues on the occasion of the anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic in Iran, at the (Al-Huriyat) Square.

Ahmad Khomeyni on Message

LD301314 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] In connection with the White House denial of the message, our correspondents today sought the views of Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni: [begin recording]

[Question] Could you please tell us how and when Carter's message was received?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The message was handed over to the imam by Mr Qotbzadeh on Friday. As Mr Qotbzadeh has pointed out, he received the message from the charge d'affaires of the Swiss Embassy on Wednesday. The next day, or possibly the same day, another message was handed over to Mr Bani-Sadr. Obviously, the message to the imam was not as severe as Bani-Sadr's message; rather, it was mild. As the imam has stated that the nation must be kept informed, we made the message available to the radio on Saturday and it was subsequently broadcast.

[Question] Were you certain that the message was from Carter?

[Answer] This is certain, for the charge d'affaires of the Swiss Embassy personally brought the message and delivered it. Therefore, it could not be considered as false. As for their denial, it was both necessary and a certainty, as far as we were concerned. There is, after all, precedent for this: for Kennedy's message to the imam was later denied. Generally, it is a tradition in America that when there is a message, they try to prevent it from being made public. We made this message public because we wanted to tell the people that we have nothing to hide. Actually, we expected it to be denied. I have been in contact with Mr Bani-Sadr, the Revolution Council and Mr Qotbzadeh. All three have pointed to the charge d'affaires as having delivered the message. So this is certain. Also certain is the denial, that they have denied it--although about half an hour ago it was reported by telephone that the Swiss Government has denied its denial and that the White House, too, has denied its denial. However, these denials have not yet been reported by agencies. We do not know when these denials will be reported.

[Question] Did the message bear a "confidential" seal or the seal of the Swiss Embassy?

[Answer] There was nothing like that on it. As you know, messages of this sort do not bear seals, numbers or signatures. For example, when Afghanistan was occupied by the USSR, the Soviet ambassador came to Qom at 0400, saying he was bearing a message from Brezhnev. Even that message was on a white paper; they sent the message so as to prevent the Iranian Government from displaying any reaction. Even then, the imam reacted. The truth of the story is that these people have not understood the Iranian Revolution. Had they understood the Iranian Revolution, had they realized that everything is of the people, that nothing is kept from the people and must not be kept from them, that the basis for any victory is to involve the people, then they would never have resorted to such measures. However, since Mr Carter is facing a very bad situation in America, facing defeat, he therefore resorts to any measures, including threatening the president, while knowing that the imam does not submit to threat. He first humbles himself and then denies both messages. We hope that our president will make his message public in the near future. I heard about 15 minutes ago that he has an announcement which probably will be made public later. In this announcement he says that on Tuesday, Islamic Republic Day [1 April] he will speak about this in some detail.

[Question] Did the imam express any views or answer to the message?

[Answer] I was not there when the imam received the message. However, a few hours later, when I arrived, he said that the message must be made public for we do not hide anything from the nation. Furthermore, there is a very strong possibility that they [Americans] may publish it themselves and then the people might think that certain issues have been kept from them. He said that we must tell the people about everything happening--then it is up to the nation to decide. It was therefore for this reason he asked us to make it public immediately.

[Question] Therefore no answer is to be given to the message, considering the denial?

[Answer] As I said, they have denied their initial denial. Of course, they have published the denial. I have learned that Carter has said that since it was a private message and that according to international tradition such messages are never made public, the press secretary and the rest did not know about it. However, all these things are lies. The message itself contains a great many lies. For example, it says: I did not know that Egypt had been in contact with the shah and that the shah was planning to leave [Panama] and points like that. However, we are not concerned about whether they deny this or they do not. What concerns the imam is that the people should be kept informed, irrespective of America's denial or otherwise.

[Question] Did you try to find out whether it was simply a lie or a political game? Otherwise they would not be annoyed over its publication and deny it.

[Answer] I am certain that the message comes from Carter. After all, the language used is theirs.

[Question] No, that is not what I mean [words indistinct].

[Answer] This is not the point. They initially published this [as heard] in order to draw their own conclusion, for it was a question involving the president--meaning that Carter's success or failure depended on the hostages. His success in the U.S. elections is based on the release or lack of release of the hostages.

[Question] Therefore, if this is the case, then they would send such a message?

[Answer] This is a result of their failure to understand the imam and the Iranian Revolution. What they say is this: Well, let us send a message; herpahs we can achieve something and certain facilities for the hostages, such as having them handed over to the government or being let free or the imam asking the Majles to let them go. These are possibilities, although rather weak ones. However, being strong on assumption, it ought to be considered. Later, however, they said [words indistinct]; now if the message is not made public, so much the better; if published, then we will deny it for there is no question of the message bearing any seal, any number, any handwritten note, any signature. It is just a message delivered by someone else. As for the message, it was in French. At any rate, as for the content of the message, there will be a proper decision on it, with the Swiss Government clarifying its position--for it is senseless for their charge d'affaires in Tehran to hand over the message to the president and the foreign minister and then later deny it, followed by yet another denial of their first denial. As for their denial, since they did the (?first) denial officially, they must also do the same with regard to the other one, otherwise they must explain it. Should they fail to do so, there is no doubt that our foreign minister and the president will react.

[Question] Did the message bear Carter's signature or the White House seal?

[Answer] No, neither.

[Question] But according to agency reports, the message had both, that is, Carter's signature and the White House seal as well as the Swiss Embassy seal.

[Answer] I have not seen the message, which was in French. The translation of the letter, however, lacked all these things; that is, they did not mention it to me that such was the case. Had it been the case, then they would have told me. At any rate, I do not think this is the case.

[Question] [passage indistinct]

[Answer] No, the translated version was brought here.

[Correspondent] Thank you. [end recording]

Qotbzadeh on Message

LD301136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0953 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] We now draw your attention to an interview given to us by Foreign Minister Qotbzadeh [Begin recording]

[Question] The White House and the charge d'affaires of the Swiss Embassy have denied the message sent to the Imam Khomeyni by President Carter. What is the Foreign Ministry's view and how was this message delivered to the imam's office?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I personally delivered the message to the imam following an audience. This is a fact which cannot be denied. However, the publication of the message has resulted in the White House encountering some domestic political difficulties. This is the reason for its initial denial.

Subsequently, following our attempts to clarify the situation last night, REUTER reported that a senior U.S. official had said that certain points had been raised in the message which had already been raised between the two sides. Therefore, not only has the content of the message been confirmed, but the subject has been raised several times as well [words indistinct] consequently, the issue is quite clear.

What is important is that following the revolution we have been pursuing a [word indistinct] and clear policy. This is one of the great successes of our diplomacy. It may be difficult for people to believe that we have achieved such a victory and they therefore (?try to deny it). The fact is that the revolution has been confirmed. It is a fact, with no doubt about its authenticity. However, it has also resulted in certain problems and difficulties, internal difficulties, for the United States. It is because of these internal problems and difficulties that the United States initially denied it. The denial was also aimed at (?minimizing) the venom as far as Carter is concerned, created by domestic pressure.

In a way, I can understand these domestic problems in the United States [words indistinct]. If you recall, some time ago a letter by Mr Kennedy was published. However, there was a mistake in this connection and we immediately clarified the issue, we, ourselves. However, today, there is no doubt about this fact. [words indistinct]

[Question] Considering that the Foreign Ministry has abandoned secret diplomacy in its foreign policy and is keeping the public informed quite openly, what are your plans in connection with this message and the commission of inquiry concerned with relations between Iran and the United States? Is the commission to continue its work?

[Answer] The commission shall continue its work. As was pointed out by the imam, the commission is to announce its views. Therefore, it should announce its views and then prepare its comprehensive report in this regard. Consequently, the commission's work is proper. The (?operation) of the commission has been open, clear and accurate. We have not flattered anyone; we have stated our case, with the utmost courtesy. This is an Islamic method. Therefore, we have succeeded in achieving impressive victories in this connection.

It is only natural that this should annoy certain dependent groups--groups subservient to the USSR and so forth. They are under the impression that they must try to (?attribute) the clamors in Iran to the USSR. [as heard] The imam's message on 21 March was precisely aimed at defining Iran's decisive stance vis-a-vis the superpowers. If you read this message carefully, you will realize that it is impossible for the Iranians to forge, God forbid, a thing like that.

In the Carter message there are a great many defenses of the American system and it is natural for American officials to defend it. If one reads the message carefully one will see that there are certain points in it which show signs of giving grounds, very clearly. At any rate, the fact is that we shall continue our work in international relations with resoluteness and courage; there is no doubt that we shall achieve great victories. [end recording]

Qotbzadeh Press Conference

NC301011 Paris AFP in English 1006 GMT 30 Mar 80 NC

[Excerpt] Tehran, March 30 (AFP)--Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh insisted today that Iran's rulers had received messages from United States President Jimmy Carter via the Swiss Embassy here. And he told a press conference that they would have had some impact on Iranians and helped to reduce tension between the United States and Iran.

Mr Qotbzadeh said that a denial of the message by the White House had been caused in his opinion by "problems of internal politics," and a similar denial by the Swiss Embassy was due to "pressure."

Mr Qotbzadeh said, however, that the contents of (?the) message, to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, should not have been published without warning the U.S. authorities.

The message to the ayatollah had been written in French, Mr Qotbzadeh added. He declined to say whether it had been written, telexed or telephoned. It was received in Tehran on Wednesday, discussed at a meeting of the Revolutionary Council the following day and given to the ayatollah on Friday, Mr Qotbzadeh said.

Qotbzadeh: 'Another' Carter Message

LD301019 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Please pay attention to a news report handed us a few minutes ago: Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh announced that another message has been sent by Jimmy Carter, the U.S. President, to President Bani-Sadr.

Announcing the news to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, Qotbzadeh added: This message from Carter was handed over to the president before noon today by the Swiss ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Qotbzadeh stressed that this other message from the U.S. President is a sign of the authenticity of the first message. It means that the relations between Iran and the United States should be based on honorable, genuine and just standards and resolved accordingly.

Swiss Confirmation of Message

NC301209 Paris AFP in English 1207 GMT 30 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Berne, March 30 (AFP)--The Swiss charge d'affaires in Tehran passed on a message from United States President Jimmy Carter to Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr last week, a spokesman for the federal foreign affairs department confirmed today.

The spokesman, Hansjoerg Renk, said the charge d'affaires delivered the message "four or five days ago" to Mr Bani-Sadr in the absence of Swiss ambassador to Iran Eric Lang, who was in Switzerland at the time.

Mr Renk however denied that a similar message had been passed on to Iran religious leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

He said the Swiss Embassy did not represent U.S. interest in Iran as diplomatic relations between Washington and Iran had not been officially broken off, but Switzerland had agreed to pass on the message out of its "good offices".

White House Press Secretary Jody Powell yesterday denied that Mr. Carter had contacted the ayatollah or any Iranian leader.

Marine Accused of Rape

NC301838 Paris AFP in English 1327 GMT 30 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Tehran, March 30 (AFP)--A Tehran police officer today identified the American hostage accused of raping a young Iranian woman as Michael Moeller, a 28-year-old sergeant in the Marine Corps. The office also said that the girl, whose brother allegedly confessed that he killed her on Thursday because she was pregnant, had met Sgt. Moeller when she sought a visa at the U.S. Consulate here, and that her relationship with him had been a willing one.

According to reports in the Iranian newspaper KEYHAN, the girl's brother, named only as Abdul Nasir insisted that she had been raped by the American.

The newspaper said that the man has been charged and is being held in Qasr criminal prison.

Militant students holding 50 hostages at the American Embassy here answered questions about the alleged rape-murder by saying that they were "not interested," because it had "nothing to do with their political battle."

"If competent judicial authorities ask to interrogate him, we will raise no objection," the students said, adding that they had not questioned Sgt. Moeller about the matter.

Commentary on Carter Denial of Message

JN301819 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1610 GMT 30 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The government is something and the people are something else; what takes place between rulers should not be made public to peoples; should peoples get acquainted with some superficial matters. This is the maxim on which Carter based his concept of what is taking place in Iran. It is the same maxim that made him send his message to his eminence the imam and then to deny sending the message after it was disseminated by the Islamic Revolution information media here.

Yes, the U.S. administration and all world politicians and rulers believe--as they have gotten used to believe--that deciding on matters and discussing issues should take place among the rulers themselves in isolation from the people's participation, acquaintance and knowledge, as if the ones who decide the destiny of peoples and discuss their current issues are only the rulers and not the peoples. They believe that talks and the exchange of letters take place behind curtains. They also imagine that the Islamic leadership in Iran will bargain at the expense of the just issue; that is, the issue of people and self-determination. Therefore, they used to send their letters and delegations out of their belief that something would happen inside halls or behind curtains.

However, they were taken by surprise when they found out that their letters are published for the Islamic and world public, particularly that letter sent by Carter and denied by the White House because it carries clear U.S. concessions and a great entreaty to the leader imam and our Mojahed people. They were also surprised to find out that everything the government discusses or spends money on must take place with the people's knowledge and consent and that the people and government are two parts of one thing, and each complements the other. Islam has originated this, and the nation's imam and leader of the blessed Islamic Revolution favored it through his practices, acts and directives.

How poor Carter is! When he sent his message, he did not expect that the message, which is carrying concessions, would be placed before the public, nor did he take into account the pressures he will be facing from world Zionism. He is poor, indeed. He has forgotten that he is dealing with people brought up by Islam to have principles in thinking, dealing and in everything. He also forgot that there could be no government without people, that the government can do nothing without the people's agreement and that the people's issues cannot be solved except before their eyes and with their knowledge and participation. This is so because anything short of this is considered treason in Islam.

Carter and his colleagues in the world have forgotten that a new force has emerged and that new concepts, equations and values have been born. These are embodied in Islam, which hit at the international norms that robbed man of his rights and usurped peoples. Yes, he has forgotten that politics in Islam does not mean lying and cheating or procrastination and bargaining, as is familiar in world politics. They have also forgotten that the advent of Islam, with its equations and concepts about man, life, rule and other things, does not allow those misleading political equations which have complicated human life and propelled matters in the interest of the oppressors.

The imam placed Carter's message before the people because he does not believe--as he taught us not to believe--in discussing the nation's affairs behind curtains and away from the people's eyes.

In conclusion, the U.S. concessions contained in Carter's message pinpoint the following:

1. The purposes of the U.S. threats have been exhausted and have become a mirage known by the world.
2. The steadfastness of the Islamic revolutionary stand in Iran and the principled resoluteness of his eminence the leader imam and the Islamic revolutionary leadership made the U.S. stand get shaken every time the United States tried to deal a blow to Iran.
3. The splendid steadfastness of our faithful masses and their challenge of all imperialist plots.
4. The elapse of time in the worsening Islamic-U.S. confrontation led to the destruction of U.S. prestige and broke the imperialist thorn before the world public.
5. The nearness of the U.S. Presidential elections made Carter and his supporters in the U.S. administration believe in the inevitability of Carter's loss if the Islamic-U.S. confrontation kept escalating and believe that Carter's success hangs on the settlement of the Iranian-U.S. issues and on the rescue of the U.S. hostages from the two jaws of these mojahed people.

These reasons and others made U.S. President Carter send his recent message to the imam. However, making the concessions contained in it known to the world and Carter's exposure to world Zionist pressures forced him to deny the message. These matters are only obvious evidence of the large contradictions and gaps created by the Islamic Revolution in the heart of the White House and the U.S. administration.

Bani-Sadr on Second Message

NC301840 Paris AFP in English 1837 GMT 30 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Tehran, March 30 (AFP)--Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr today said that he has received a second message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter delivered during late afternoon by the Swiss charge d'affaires. He made the statement following a Revolutionary Council meeting, but refused to give any indication of the letter's contents.

Meanwhile Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh late today released a photocopy of the Swiss Embassy's transcription of the original text of President Carter's reported message to the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

An introductory letter accompanying it dated March 26 read: "The text has been typed at the Swiss Embassy to avoid leaks. One copy will remain in my hands, another at the embassy to be transmitted tomorrow to President Bani-Sadr if you consider it necessary." The letter and the message had been typed on plain white paper without a heading and was followed only by an illegible signature which could be that of the Swiss ambassador in Tehran, Erik Lang.

Observers commented that the phrase "to avoid leaks" could indicate that President Carter's original text had been Telexed in code.

While President Bani-Sadr did not disclose the contents of the second message, he did say that it resembled the first, in which, he said, Mr. Carter appealed to him to make good a pledge of transferring the U.S. hostages held at the American Embassy here to government control and ensure their physical well-being until the United Nations investigating committee concluded its work. Mr. Bani-Sadr denied having made such promises, adding: "We consider our own interests first."

Revolutionary Council Spokesman Hasan Habibi today said the council "noted that President Carter sent a message to the Ayatollah Khomeyni via the Swiss Embassy and that the contents were broadcast yesterday by Iran radio." The message's (contents had been) discussed during the council meeting on Thursday before being sent to the Ayaytollah, he said. President Bani-Sadr then also referred to the "different messages that the American President had directed to him," Mr. Habibi said.

The council today made "important decisions" concerning the internal problems of the country, Mr Habibi also said. But he would not disclose their nature.

31 MARCH DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING U.S. RELATIONS, HOSTAGES

Tehran Cites AFP Message

LD310202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0130 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] AFP reports that the spokesman for the Swiss Foreign Ministry confirmed the existance of the American President's second message to President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr of Iran. This spokesman added that this message was given to Bani-Sadr by the Swiss ambassador in Tehran, Erik Lang, on Sunday morning. The above-named spokesman did not announce the text of the message.

Threat to Reveal CIA Agents

LD310215 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0130 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to a UP report, a former agent of the American espionage organization, CIA, has threatened to publicize a list of 7,500 CIA agents, some of whom were taken hostage in Tehran, according to him. He was expelled from the CIA 16 years ago and it is said that he possesses a list of CIA agents. He said that among the list of CIA agents are some still active in Europe and Asia. He has announced that he will not publicize this list if the charges brought against Shahrokh Bakhtiar, a cousin of Shapur Bakhtiar, the last prime minister of the former Iranian regime, are dropped and he is released from a court trial.

Shahrokh Bakhtiar is supposed to be turned over to the court [as heard] on charges of selling heroin, tomorrow. Shakrokh Bakhtiar was a SAVAK agent at the time of the deposed shah's regime and that is when he was in contact with this CIA agent.

Tehran on Swiss Confirmation

LD310408 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Despite the White House statement in Washington denying the message of Carter to the Iranian authorities, the Government of Switzerland announced last night that the Swiss Government had passed a message from the American President to President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr of Iran.

A spokesman for the Swiss Government confirmed that this written message was given to the president of Iran last week by (Marcus Kayser), charge d'affaires.

A spokesman for the Swiss Foreign Ministry also said that Switzerland has played its only traditional role as a neutral country. He emphasized that they acted according to the American request, because there is no direct means of contact between America and Iran.

Further Comment on Messages

LD310345 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Revolution Council held a meeting last night in which President Dr Bani-Sadr took part. Current problems of the country were investigated. Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh, in an interview with reporters at the end of this meeting about Carter's message to the imam and the president, said: I explained the full details of this message to the Revolution Council and there is not the slightest doubt about the authenticity of this message. And the White House has also announced this morning that it will no longer talk about this message. Of course, they have practically confirmed the contents of this message through REUTER. And as the White House has gone quiet since this morning, it also confirms the essence of the action: [as heard]. He added that it must be taken into account that they have some internal difficulties, too.

Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, also speaking on the text of Carter's message, at the end of this meeting said: The text of the message was the same as I announced in my statement today.

About the second message, which had been sent at 1100 this morning, Bani-Sadr said: In the second message it was said that: You had promised that the hostages would come under the government's care--but I said that we must determine our own interests and act accordingly and we had not promised you anything.

About the effect of the message on the government of Iran, Bani-Sadr said: Of course it is a victory for our nation and those who are responsible for the affairs of the country that the American President has written such a letter and it shows that we are right and their propaganda is unjustified. But our action should be in line with the interests of our country and the revolution and we cannot make a decision on the basis of a letter, unless we see it is put into action and that whatever needs to be done is done.

About the American acceptance of the conditions determined by the president, he said: He has accepted some of this message and it will be more effective when it is put into action. [sentence as heard]

Powell Confirmation of Message

LD310439 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Jody Powell has confirmed that Carter sent a message to the president of Iran. The White House spokesman confirmed yesterday that Carter sent a message to Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr last week in order to solve the crisis between America and Iran and expedite release of the hostages. Jody Powell, who was participating in Carter's election campaign program, did not agree to reveal details of the American president's message and said: This might endanger finding a solution.

This is the first time that an American official has confirmed that there has been contact between Carter and the Government of Iran since the broadcast of the message on Iranian radio. It must be mentioned that Jody Powell himself had said on Saturday that neither Carter nor any other person had sent messages to Ayatollah Khomeyni or anybody else in Tehran.

Other U.S. Messages

TA310702 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 31 Mar 80 TA

[From newsdesk]

[Text] There is still confusion, at least in Washington, over whether President Carter really sent a personal letter to Ayatollah Khomeyni about the American hostages. The Iranians insist that he did, they say the message was conciliatory and agreed to a formation of a joint American-Iranian commission after the hostages are in the care of the Iranian Government. From Tehran, Alex Brody: [begin recording] Iranian foreign minister, Mr Qotbzadeh described it as (? chess board), and he said the Revolution Council will discuss the question concerning the hostages (? as well as others missing).

However there have been other messages to president Bani-Sadr, how many is not clear. An informed source said he thought there were three, one from Carter and two from Cyrus Vance. There were other indications there were strong efforts to break the deadlock. Diplomatic sources say that the embassies of several industrial nations sent messages from their governments to the president. America is still not acting against Iran at this moment. It can impose economic sanctions and expel Iranian diplomats from the United States for example. It is possible that America is offering both a fist and a handshake. Ayatollah Khomayni's son Hasan [as received] interviewed on a Tehran radio said there was rumors of a message to the president but not in a message to the Ayatollah [end recording].

Presidential Adviser on Messages

LD311056 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Following a report in the New York TIMES on Carter's strongly-worded message to our country's president our correspondent interviewed Mr Musavi, the president's cultural and press adviser. We now draw your attention to this interview [begin recording]:

[Question] Mr Musavi, as Mr Bani-Sadr's cultural and press adviser, what do you have to say about the report in the New York TIMES on Carter's ultimatum to Iran and his strongly-worded message?

[Answer] As regards what the agencies have reported, I must say that following a meeting of the Revolution Council someone close to Mr Bani-Sadr...

[Question] [interrupting] You mean a close associate of Mr Bani-Sadr?

[Answer] Yes, a close associate of Mr Bani-Sadr, told foreign correspondents that Mr Bani-Sadr said: America has sent me a letter and given me an ultimatum [etmam-e hojjat]. Another news agency reported that America has given an ultimatum ["ultimating" as in English]. However, I must state that we totally deny this. There has not been any such thing. The only thing is that Carter sent a second letter; this letter was also delivered to Mr Bani-Sadr by the Swiss Embassy charge d'affaires. As for this second letter, Mr Bani-Sadr is to comment on it during his speech tomorrow in Tehran.

[Question] Therefore, the ultimatum and the expulsion of the Iranian diplomats are both without any foundation?

[Answer] Yes, we deny both.

[Question] So, there has been no such a letter?

[Answer] Mr Bani-Sadr has received a second letter. As for the content of the letter, no one knows anything about it yet. Even I, his cultural and press adviser, know nothing about the content of the second letter. Mr Bani-Sadr told me just now that he has not told any close associate or anyone else about it, or that he denies it.

[Question] Then you think there has been no such letter?

[Answer] This is an issue which Mr Bani-Sadr himself will talk about tomorrow in Tehran. [end recording]

Khomeyni on U.S. Inaction

LD311125 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0935 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] More than (?60) judges of the Justice Ministry, accompanied by Dr Mohammad Beheshti, the chief justice of the Supreme Court, and the prosecutor general were received yesterday morning by Imam Khomeyni at his temporary residence. In the course of the meeting, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, made the following remarks: [read by announcer]

As you witnessed, the people got together, shouted "God is great" and removed all the obstacles in front of them. The situation is such now that no power is able to do anything, that is, it is not possible to impose something on a nation. Although it is possible that an oppressor might arrive at the scene and start his oppression, like cholera, he will not be able to achieve anything that is against the wishes of a nation. No power can impose its will, neither America nor the USSR. Neither can impose its will.

The day the Soviet ambassador came to me and told me that the Afghan Government had asked the USSR to send troops there, I told him this would be a mistake on the part of the USSR. Obviously, the Soviet Government is capable of taking over Afghanistan, but it cannot remain there; if you think you may be able to occupy Afghanistan and keep it quiet, this is a vain idea. The Afghan people are Muslims who stand up to the Afghan Government. If you or any other government go there, you might be able to occupy it but you cannot keep it quiet; you and any other power going there would eventually be defeated. I adhere to the same idea even now.

Thank God, we no longer have a government in this country which opposes the nation; both the nation and the government work together. In a country such as ours no one can impose anything. Consequently, it is from abroad that they keep shouting: We shall do this or we shall do that. If you recall, from the very beginning, when these young people occupied the espionage den, a great many words were uttered. For example, it is said that paratroopers were to be landed, that they were going to render the young people [holding the hostages at the U.S. Embassy] unconscious and then enter the espionage den and rescue the spies. Obviously, all this was nonsense.

It was also said that they were to embark on a military intervention and crush everyone. The whole thing was verbal; even now everything is just words. Do not ever be afraid of words, for these words are not followed by action; no one is going to resort to military occupation. We are not afraid of these things. As for Afghanistan, it has been militarily occupied. We can fight better than Afghanistan.

At any rate, the point is that their propagandists are, regrettably, among the Iranians themselves. What they aim to do is to create a rot from within, thus creating clashes among internal peoples and organizations. What they want to do, if they can, is to cause discord between the president and the [Revolution] Council. Failing that, they would want to create factions in order to bring about differences and turmoil and such things.

REACTION TO TRAVEL OF SHAH CONTINUES

Khuzestan Demonstrators' Resolution

GF291258 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 26 Mar 80 GF

[Report on resolution issued in Ahvaz following antishah demonstration on 25 March]

[Text] [Announcer] In the beginning of the resolution, it is said that we, the people of Ahvaz, consider As-Sadat's acceptance of the executioner shah, for whatever reason, to be a plot against the Muslim nation of Iran and an anti-Muslim action. We severely condemn this action. Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Jaza'eri [not further identified] will read the rest of the resolution.

[Begin Jaza'eri recording] We ask all Arab Muslim brothers and particularly our Egyptian Muslim brothers not to accept this shame. In order to keep Islam safe, we ask them to rise up and expel this germ of corruption from their land. The Muslim Egyptian people should maintain their struggle against the satan and avoid any compromise. They should take the lead in keeping Islam safe. [shouts of "God is great!"]

The United States should know that following the imam's advice we have noticed that the United States has had a hand in all the plots against our revolution. Therefore, we consider United States to be our nation's No 1 enemy. We know that every plot against our Islamic revolution is directed by the United States. [shouts of "God is great!"]

We consider the message that the imam issued on the anniversary of the new year to be the best and most valuable present he could have given the nation. We will sacrifice ourselves in order to put these 13 points into action and we ask government organizations to carry out these matters. [shouts of "God is great!"]

We condemn the actions of the Ba'th regime of Iraq and its plots against our dear country and its revolution. We also condemn the actions being carried out by the regime against our Muslim brothers in Iraq. [shouts of "God is great!"]

We ask the Islamic Revolutionary Court to carry out the imam's 13 points and to suppress the counterrevolution decisively and within limits of Islam. [shouts of "God is great!"]

We condemn severely the actions of the diversionary groups who are trying to weaken the revolution and ask them to return to the nation's ranks. Otherwise, they should know that the tide of the revolution will sweep over them. [shouts of "God is great!"]

Once again, we want to emphasize that the Muslim nation of Iran has opened its eyes and is watching all official organizations within the country. We are particularly watching the revolution courts regarding the implementation of the imam's 13 points regarding the suppression of the counterrevolution. No matter where they are--in factories, offices or wherever they work--the people are watching how these organizations behave. If we notice any weakness or irregularities we will punish them and report them to the imam. [shouts of "God is great!"] We will be victorious and successful.

We hope, God willing, that just as we defeated the phantoms [U.S. F-4 Phantom fighter-bombers] through the use of our faith as a weapon, we will be able to bring back our great enemy, the traitorous shah, and sentence him to death, God willing. Our unity will last forever. On behalf of the religious society, I thank you for your participation in this march. [end recording]

Dezful Imam's Condemnation

GF291416 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 29 Mar 80 GF

[Text] Yesterday's Friday prayer in Dezful was led by Ayatollah Qazi. Large groups of Dezful citizens attended the prayer services, which were held at Dezful's Imam Khomeyni Mosque. In his first speech, Ayatollah Qazi severely condemned the plots of the United States and the paid government of Egypt for accepting the deposed shah. He said this is an example of international Zionist deceit and accused As-Sadat of being a tool of U.S. imperialism. Ayatollah Qazi, in his call to Egyptian citizens, said: O Muslim people of Egypt, follow the example of Iran's revolutionary people and destroy the puppet [Egyptian] government and the U.S. Government. He then addressed his speech to the Soviet Government and said: O Soviet Government, who always claims that you support the world's toilers, workers and farmers, how do you explain your interference in Afghanistan and the killing of tens of toilers, workers and farmers daily.

In his second speech, the Friday imam of Dezful said: Unfortunately, our neighbor Iraq is also carrying out the orders of its bosses and is plotting against the Iranian Revolution. He said it has sent its elements to Khuzestan to destroy the pipelines and government offices. However, their bombs have killed our Muslim brothers. We, the people of Iran, severely condemn the cowardly plans of the Iraqi Government.

At the end of his second speech, Ayatollah Qazi asked the Muslim people of Dezful to participate in the second stage of the Islamic parliamentary elections and to elect their real representatives.

Beheshti on Egyptian Relations

LD282008 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Ayatollah Dr Mohammad Beheshti, the head of the Supreme Court of the country and a member of the Revolution Council, was received by Imam Khomeyni in order to congratulate the imam on the occasion of the new year. Dr Beheshti, at the end of this meeting, told a PARS reporter: At this meeting we discussed the future of judicial power and the main steps to be taken in connection with it, and also major election issues and the imam's decisions to prevent any anarchy and irresponsible decision makings in different corners of the country. We hope that these demands, which were included among the issues that the imam announced in his new year message, will be fulfilled soon.

Dr Beheshti, the head of the Supreme Court, answering a question put to him by the PARS reporter asking if the Egyptian Government were to hand over the deposed shah to Iran would Iran establish relations with Egypt, said: If the Egyptian Government does such a thing it would be a step in the right direction, and this act would be appreciated. But this would not mean that the issues connected to the treasons committed by As-Sadat against the nation of Egypt and the Islamic world in his relation with Israel would be undermined by this action. These treasonable acts are still condemned, and As-Sadat and the government of Egypt should return from this path of treason.

Dr Beheshti added: We do not believe in political give and take, and the problems of Egypt are deeper than these things and our relations with Egypt depend on many other issues. We wish to stress again that we do not believe in political give and take. Dr Beheshti concluded: I hope that in the new year our nation will take bigger steps toward the final victory of the revolution with more diligence and decisive determination.

Bandar Khomeyni Imam's Condemnation

GF291432 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 29 Mar 80 GF

[Excerpts] The Friday prayer in Bandar Khomeyni was led by Hojjat ol-Eslam al-Ghafor at the Jame'a mosque of Bandar Khomeyni. In another part of his speech, the Friday imam of Bandar Khomeyni said: The flight of the deposed shah from Panama took place at a time in which the documents of his crimes should have been given to the Panamanian Government. The shah's flight was another trick by the criminal United States. However, what is interesting here is that the shah's friends did not allow him into their country, but As-Sadat has shamelessly accepted and sheltered this criminal. The Iranian nation condemns this action. At the same time, the oppressed brothers and sisters of Egypt are suffering from this action. The wave of opposition to As-Sadat is growing, and we hope this will be a sign for the destruction of both the guest and the host.

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS USSR ON AFGHANISTAN

Foreign Ministry Statement

JN290939 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

["Text" of statement issued by Iranian Foreign Ministry on 29 March--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God. Following statements by the Iranian foreign minister about agreement with the Soviet Union on the issue of Afghanistan and in order to explain this issue and to avoid any misunderstanding on the talks between the Iranian and Soviet governments, we would like to mention the following:

1. The Iranian and Soviet Governments believe that the issue of Afghanistan must be solved in a peaceful manner.

2. The Iranian and Soviet Governments believe it would be appropriate to consider the issue a regional one and to settle it within the framework of neighboring countries.

3. Direct talks must begin between the Soviet and Afghan Governments, because there can be no solution without the presence of the Afghan Government.

Therefore, these are the points on which agreement has been reached. The Iranian Government believes that no real solution capable of being implemented will be possible unless talks are held with the Afghan revolutionaries and complete agreement with them is reached.

It is possible to begin talks with concerned countries and parties on this basis, taking Afghanistan's independence and sovereignty into consideration, and to end these talks, with God's help.

Qotbzadeh on Soviet Negotiation Agreement

OW290118 Hong Kong AFP in English 0113 GMT 29 Mar 80 OW

[Text] Tehran, March 29 (AFP)--Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh reasserted yesterday that, despite a Soviet denial, Soviet authorities had agreed in principle to direct negotiations between the countries of the region and parties concerned with the Afghan problem. Mr. Qotbzadeh, who had just met with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni in his house near Tehran, was repeating what he had said at a news conference Tuesday.

The Soviet news agency TASS Thursday confirmed that a meeting had been held in Tehran between Mr. Qotbzadeh and the Soviet ambassador to Iran, but asserted that "nothing was planned" at the meeting. TASS termed "strange" and "gratuitious" Mr. Qotbzadeh's assertions that the Soviet Union agreed in principle to negotiations on Afghanistan. Mr. Qotbzadeh said that for Iran the basis for these negotiations was respect and guarantees for the sovereignty of the Afghan people, the people's free choice of a government, and withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. He said there could be no solution to the Afghan problem without negotiations between the country's leaders and what he called "the revolutionary Afghans."

Qotbzadeh Meeting With Soviet Ambassador

LD282026 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1940 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Sadeq Qotbzadeh, the minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, today, in an exclusive interview with PARS about his negotiations with the Russian ambassador on the situation in Afghanistan, said: The message that the Russian ambassador brought from his government shows that this government agrees with direct negotiations between Iran and USSR about Afghanistan to solve the problem of that country. Qotbzadeh said: This was the basis of the agreement we demanded. We demanded that the issue of Afghanistan be solved in a peaceful manner. The minister of foreign affairs then said: During these negotiations it was confirmed that the government of Iran believes that solving the issue of Afghanistan without direct and proper negotiations with revolutionaries in Afghanistan is not possible. Without due consideration to the rights of the people of this country, no solution can be found.

Qotbzadeh continued: We are trying to find a solution for this issue together with the USSR. He added: The demand of the government of Iran relies on three principles:

1. Recognizing the rights of the people of Afghanistan and Afghan sovereignty and insuring this;

2. Respecting the logical demands of the people of Afghanistan to have the kind of government they want;

3. Foreign governments should not interfere in the internal affairs of that country.

About the relations between Iran and Iraq, the minister of foreign affairs said: In fact the present situation of the government of Iraq does not differ from the government of the deposed shah in Iran. The same stupid issues which were of importance for the deposed shah's regime are important for the present government of Iraq.

Qotbzadeh said: We do not accept this government as legitimate since a government which stays in power with the help of bayonets and slaughtering thousands of people cannot be of the people and cannot be considered legitimate within its borders.

Finally, the minister of foreign affairs said: The government of Iraq should know that serving imperialism might gain it some profit for a time, but its result will not be other than annihilation of this kind of government. We consider the government of Iraq a complete subservient element and a true servant to U.S. imperialism in the region. Any problem to be solved with this country should be first solved with America. Therefore, we do not consider our problems with Iraq of any serious nature.

BORDER DISPUTE, POLITICAL EVENTS IN IRAQ REPORTED

'Islamic Action Organization' Operations

JN3010S0 [Editorial Report JN] Tehran International Service in Arabic at 1800 GMT on 29 March broadcasts a 30-minute "monthly statement" issued by "the Islamic Action Organization in Iraq." The statement reports on "crimes and executions" committed by the "Iraqi Ba'thist authorities" and anti-government military operations carried out by fighters of the Islamic organization. The statement reports the following major incidents:

"The pro-U.S. Iraqi Ba'thist authorities recently executed several members of the armed forces of various ranks. The martyrs include Ghalib Ibrahim, an Air Force engineer from the village of Kharnabat in the Diyala province; 2d Lt 'Abd as-Sattar Mahmud Maraq, Air Force technician from (Abi Darman) village in the Diyala province; Khalaf Shams as-Sudani, a training officer in the military college; 'Abd as-Sattar Nasir, an NCO from Ar-Rifa'i and 'Abd al-Amin Farhud, an NCO from Ar-Rifa'i."

"The Saddam regime recently carried out what it terms a purge in northern Iraq, affecting villages on the Iraqi border with the Iranian Islamic Republic. The regime removed the Kurdish residents of the villages of (Birri), (As-Sirkab), (Al-Bayyarah) and (Tall Ja'far) and replaced them by the beoduin tribes of Al-Jubur, Ad-Dulaym and Yazid, to plot against the Iranian revolution and to avenge the Arabs in Iran."

"In an attempt to prevent the voice of justice from reaching our masses, the Ba'thists have set up a transmitter in Mansuriyat al-Jabal near the border with the Iranian Islamic Republic to jam the radio of the Iranian Islamic Republic."

The statement reports the following major operations by the Islamic Action Organization:

"A group of our struggler brothers in the town of Ar-Rumaythah have carried out a daring operation that reminded people there of the days of the struggle against the British and the old Ba'thists during the 1920 Islamic Revolution. This struggler group derailed a train of 11 cars, which was carrying oil and tanks to the Iranian border to strike at the plot against the blessed Iranian Islamic revolution."

"Saddam Husayn was the target of an assassination attempt on 6 January that led to the cancellation of army day celebrations this year. The leader of the clique looked obviously shaken when he delivered his speech."

"On 28 Safar [early January], the anniversary of the death of the Prophet, our brother Mujahidin in the An-Najaf set off seven explosions in different parts of the city, including the Ba'th Party offices, local government offices and the governorate offices."

"A group killed Saddam Husayn's sister and brother-in-law in their home in the Al-Iskan quarter in Baghdad. Saddam personally called at the scene of the incidents and ordered the arrest of several of his sister's neighbors."

Border Pass Retaken

LD291032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY dispatch, the official in charge of communications at the central Guards Corps has announced that the Havan Pass, on the border strip north of Qasr-e Shirin, which had previously been occupied by [word indistinct] attackers, was liberated on 27 March as a result of an assault launched by the local Guards Corps. No reports have been received so far about the number of probable dead or wounded in that clash.

Clash With Iraqi Troops

LD291024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1004 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent's report, the Khosravi border was once again attacked by the armed forces and guerrillas of the Iraqi Ba'th government last night. The attackers opened fire with heavy weapons on the Khosravi and (Tankab-e Now) posts. Our border forces fiercely returned their fire, inflicting casualties on the enemy.

Unfortunately, the report indicates that during the clash a national serviceman was martyred and seven gendarmerie NCO's were wounded. This report has been corroborated by the governor general of Kermanshahan Province, by the deputy commandant of a regional gendarmerie station in Kermanshah and by the commander of the Qasr-e Shirin gendarmerie brigade.

BBC Report on Relations

TA291529 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 29 Mar 80 TA

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Text] The official Iranian broadcasting service has reported a border clash between Iranian troops and regular Iraqi forces.

Tehran Radio accused the Iraqis of fighting alongside guerrillas opposed to the Tehran government and said the Iranians inflicted heavy casualties at a border post in forcing them to withdraw. Alex Brody in Tehran says the radio account coincides with further strong criticism of Iraq in the Iranian media.

[Begin Brody recording] The report comes at a time when the radio propaganda war between the two countries is at its most intense since the Iranian Revolution more than 1 year ago. At the beginning of March both countries recalled their ambassadors. President Bani-Sadr in his new year message 1 week ago called for the overthrow of the Iraqi leader, Saddam Husayn, and (?accused) Iraq of being behind the sabotage of an Iranian oil pipeline in the southwestern province of Khuzestan. The Iranian foreign minister, Mr Qotbzadeh, has described Iraq as being a tool of American imperialism.

Today, reports in the Tehran press quote Iraqi opposition sources as saying deep disagreements have broken out within the Iraqi Government. The report said that 12 members of President Husayn's office have been arrested and the military is said to have told him to mend his ways or his life would be in danger. These reports have not been verified.

Iraqi opposition sources also say that the general secretary of the Cooperative Union of Iraqi Farmers, Mr (Moshen Sharan), has been arrested and that a few days ago the president's aircraft was blown up at Baghdad airport 15 minutes before he was due to board. However, other opposition sources say they know nothing of this.

At the moment, as Iraqi opposition leader is in Tehran, he has tried--and so far failed--to get an audience with President Bani-Sadr. [end recording]

COMMENTARY: CONCESSIONS ON PALESTINE ARE 'TREASON'

JN291945 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 29 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The problems from which the Palestinian people suffered in the past period were due to the concessions made by the Arab leaders. During the past 20 years, I called in my speeches and appeals for the need to abolish the differences among the Arab states and said that these states should unite and cooperate under the slogan of Islam and apply the Islamic aims. This is how the leader imam summed up the problems lying behind keeping the Palestine issue the spoil of procrastination and the tug-of-war game.

The issue will remain far from the circle of radical solution unless it is submitted to the table of principled steadfastness and in accordance with Islamic originality in treatment. As the leader imam said, we wonder if we have less arms than the Israeli enemy or if our human power is weak or if our strategic position does not allow us to remove this colonialist pillar from the nation's heart.

We say once again that the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights cannot be achieved except through [word indistinct] and the holy war--or say the holy march, as it is termed by the nation's imam. Steadfastness cannot be achieved through speeches, words or conferences, but through sticking to principles in dealings and the renunciation of haggling.

The issue is that of principles as well as the issue of [word indistinct] people. It is then a holy issue that does not tolerate haggling or concession. Haggling or making concessions on a principled issue is treason, and the issue may die in the mess of selling and buying or for the sake of getting some small aims and transitory accomplishments. Moreover, steadfastness means not falling into the arena of international games. This arena devoured peoples that remained silent over their rights and ruined just issues.

Our holy issue of Palestine has entered the arena of international games and made large strides that led it to a deade end, except that path drawn up by the United States and suggested by imperialism. But having principles in dealings and believing in the holiness of the issue, which does not accept any form of bargaining, constitute the only means for the salvation of the deprived Palestinian people and the restoration of their usurped rights.

In reaffirmation of our previous stands and our commitment to our fateful issues, away from empty allegations, we must say that the subject of selling the Palestine issue, whether in Camp David or any other place, is one subject and that the hand that makes a capitulatory solution, whether in Tel Aviv, Camp David or elsewhere, is also one hand. Our principled stands remain firm and unchangeable no matter how much the international balances change and regardless of how much bargaining is made and how many toasts are drunk at the expense of the oppressed peoples.

Our trenches and positions in the face of the enemy are solid on all issues, whether these positions were on Palestine, Afghanistan or any other place, Islam has said: No right is lost if there is someone claiming it.

OIL MINISTER LEAVES FOR TALKS IN LIBYA

JN281541 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Oil Minister 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar left for Libya today at an invitation extended by the Libyan Government. The minister will deliver a message from president of the Islamic Republic of Iran Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Oil Minister Mo'infar will hold talks with Libyan officials on matters of mutual concern and on developing relations between Iran and Libya. He will also hold talks with his Libyan counterpart on the coordination of oil policy between the two countries.

ILAM GOVERNOR: OIL DRILLING BEGINS ON BORDER WITH IRAQ

ID292134 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Mar 80 ID

[Unidentified reporter's interview with Ilam Governor General Ebrahimi; date and place not specified--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Ebrahimi, our reporter has reported from Ilam that in Ilam oil wells have been drilled and are nearly ready for production. With the information you have regarding oil issues, will you please provide our listeners with some information?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

3 months ago when I started serving the nation of Iran, I realized, during a border inspection, that a number of wells had been drilled very close to the boundary between Iran and Iraq by the government of Iraq, and many of them were in use. The number of these wells exceeded 30 and drilling near the border was in progress. This to me, one specialized in this subject, and to the struggling Muslim nation of Iran was very worrying and in repeated requests handed to me the people asked that these operations either be stopped or that drilling operations should be initiated. In this connection investigations were carried out by the Governorate General of Ilam and the Ministry of Oil, four experimental platforms were erected in the region of Mojrian and Dehloran and drilling started. One of these wells struck a vast reservoir of oil and very soon will be ready to be used.

Geological studies of the region show that underground oil reservoirs are inclined towards the borderline and if other wells are drilled, our production will be quite high. Iraqi production, on the other hand, which is from our resources, will be stopped. We are continuing these operations. Drilling will continue because of the vast oil reservoirs in this region. We hope that in the near future we will be able to use the oil produced from other wells which are now being drilled.

[Question] What results have you had from your operations up to now?

[Answer] Oil well No 1 which I inspected a few days ago--and talked to the engineers about--is a suitable well and has struck vast reserves of oil. The kind of oil produced there is of high quality, which makes production in the region more economical. They are at the [word indistinct] stage and after this stage oil production from this region will commence. We have proposed that this oil be transported to [name indistinct] or Kermanshah from Ilam via pipelines to refineries. The wells which have been used under high pressure over a long period of time could be shut down to build up the pressure for future use in Khuzestan Province.

[Question] Considering the situation in Ilam, won't there be political problems created between Iran and Iraq over these wells?

[Answer] The information we have gathered is that Iraq, during the past year when we had the revolution in Iran, has embarked on drilling operations near the border with Iran with amazing greed, taking great risks, and has planned to drill 60 wells. They thought that without foreign experts like [names of oil companies indistinct] Iran will not be able to continue its drilling operations and this would provide them with a good opportunity to misappropriate oil rather than produce it. But with this revolutionary act of the drilling unit of the Ministry of Oil and the endeavors of workers and employees in that region, these drilling operations were rapidly completed and the production stage reached. We hope that these drillings will continue at the present pace. At present, four sets of drilling equipment are being used in our region. They [the Iraqis] are drilling on the other side of the border. But fortunately, since the geoligical characteristics of these wells are such that the oil reserves or the depth of the reserves are towards our border, inside our border, with a few more well drilled, the Iraqi wells will produce only salt water.

[Question] Have you estimated Iranian oil reserve in the Ilam region?

[Answer] At present we can not estimate the volume of our reserves and it is not right that these should be hastily guessed at. We need to conduct more drilling operations and more study to produce correct contour maps and calculate the volume of reserves of oil and gas in the region. What is obvious is that the region is quite rich in oil.

[Question] During the former regime, the Government of Iran, according to a contract which was not even announced, undertook not to drill for oil in the Ilam region. Why have you embarked on this operation in spite of this contract which might still be [word indistinct]?

[Answer] We have not seen this contract; if there has been a contract it should have been binding on both sides. But the drilling operations undertaken by the Iraqi Government, hastily and boldy, and very near the border line with Iran, are still continuing under the regulations and contracts imposed on us in Algeria during the regime of Satan; this is not much of an issue. Of course, this will be determined by the Ministry of Oil and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. But we have drilled in our own region, in our own country, whereas they have drilled where they are probably using our resources. And if an investigation is carried out many of their operations would be deemed illegal, even if past contracts were to be enforced.

[Reporter] Mr Ebrahimi, thank you for your comments.

ABADAN REFINERY SUPERVISOR SAYS PRODUCTION AT MAXIMUM

ID301512 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 30 Mar 80 ID

[Text] PARS reports that production at the Abadan Oil Refinery has reached 580,000 barrels per day, which reflects maximum utilization of the refinery's rated capacity.

The supervisor of the Abadan Oil Refinery, who announced this in an interview with PARS, went on to say:

All the refinery's auxiliary plants, such as the (?lubricating) oil plant, are in operation.

Asked by the PARS correspondent about the effects the recent explosions had on the refinery's production, he said: The explosions that occurred on the oil pipelines caused certain difficulties regarding the feed of crude oil to the refinery, the result of which was about a 10 percent reduction in total refinery output. After repairs on the lines, production was raised and has now reached 580,000 barrels per day.

Regarding the rated capacity of the refinery, he said: The rated capacity is 600,000 [as heard] barrels per day, which could be raised to 620,000 barrels a day, considering the plans that have been formulated.

The PARS correspondent asked about the reasons for kerosine shortages, especially in the northern part of the country. The supervisor of the Abadan Oil Refinery said: The shortages have been due to difficulties caused by atmoshpheric [as heard] conditions that have prevailed on the production of natural gas; the [words indistinct] of the sources that use natural gas, such as kerosene and diesel oil, has inevtibaly been affected and this effect has also promoted the kerosene shortage.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING MAJLES ELECTIONS

Bani-Sadr, Khomeyni Meeting

LD291708 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1644 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] This morning Mr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, went to the residence of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They discussed the nation's current affairs.

At the end of this meeting, in an interview with the correspondent of the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Bani-Sadr said:

In this meeting, the imam said that the principles of the future Islamic Consultative Assembly should conform to those of the presidency; if any fraud has occurred in the elections, it should be seriously investigated. However, this should not be an excuse to shake the credibility of the Majles.

Investigative Commission Accepting Complaints

LD300420 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0230 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The seven-man commission to investigate election complaints, elected by the Revolution Council, called on all persons who have complaints, information or documents pertaining to the manner in which the elections to the Consultative Assembly were conducted to forward their evidence to the office of the seven-man commission investigating complaints. It is located in the Prime Ministry building, fifth floor; receipts should be obtained.

In the statement of the seven-man commission investigating complaints, it is said that complaints must be submitted by the end of the official working day on Thursday, 3 April. Complaints reaching this office after that date will not be investigated.

KHOMEYNI'S OFFICE WANTS ONLY RELIGIOUS MAIL

LD310807 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Statement issued by Imam Khomeyni's office; date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As we have already pointed out, in order to cooperate with the executive organs, the correspondence section of the imam's Secretariat has been abolished. Consequently, those sisters and brothers having any questions or complaints should send their letters to the presidential Secretariat at the Prime Minister's Office. The Secretariat of Imam Khomeyni will only reply to letters raising religious questions. Therefore, we call on all the noble people of Iran to refrain from sending letters and telegrams to this Secretariat, as we will have to be excused for not answering them.

[Signed] Imam Khomeyni's Secretariat, Qom.

MAHDAVI KANI ISSUES STATEMENT ON UNAUTHORIZED MARCH

LD310704 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Statement issued 31 March by the supervisor of the Interior Ministry, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdavi Kani--read by announcer]

We have learned that a group is to assemble today in front of Tehran University and then stage a march. As this march is taking place in the absence of proper permission from the Interior Ministry, we therefore call on all Tehran citizens to avoid participating in the demonstration in order to prevent any possible clash.

The Interior Ministry once again notifies all individuals and political groups that any assembly and march should have prior permission from the Interior Ministry, so that the security forces may provide proper coordination in keeping peace.

TEHRAN'S FRIDAY IMAM CRITICIZES RADIO, TV PROGRAMS

LD281824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] The glorious Friday prayers were held today, led by Tehran's Friday imam and with the participation of a vast crowd of committed and revolutionary prayer-holders, at Tehran University.

Tehran's Friday imam began by reciting the prayers sermon and in the Friday prayers sermon strongly criticized the New Year programs of the Voice and Profile of the Islamic Republic of Iran, saying: As the imam of the nation has said, radio and television should be a school and university for all the people.

As my religious duty, I deem necessary to give this warning to the committed and responsible brothers who head the management of radio and television: the programs of the past few days have not been suitable programs for a revolution.

Our programs are generally not the programs of a nation that wishes to advertise and explain its revolution to other nations. They are not the programs that our people are eager for or for which they are in need. The radio and television of a revolutionary nation which has risen with the power of Islam should bring the choicest Islamic thoughts.

Place arts at the service of Islam; do not place any hopes on the so-called expert artists who know nothing of Islam, have no affection for Islam and do not like Islam or being Muslims.

We know the brothers in the supervisory council of radio and television. They are our pious, committed and Muslim brothers. However, the radio and television programs are in no way suitable for Islam, faith and commitment.

The New Year programs were trite and in some cases very misleading.

If you do not have the power to gather pure, revolutionary and Muslim artists from all over Iran, close the television down; admit that you are not able.

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